

Attachment 2.2
Alaska Child Care and Development Fund Plan (FFY 2010 – 2011)
Brief Summary of Public Comments

Name	Agency/Organization	Plan Section and Comment
Tiara Hauf Juneau	Single Parent	Dissatisfied with using the 2002 Median Income for the sliding scale for the Child Care Assistance Program. She stated that a salary she looked at for the State had risen 15% from 8-1-01 to 1-1-09. She stated that the income eligibility needs to be updated ASAP.
Lottie Gottsche Anchorage	Caregiver's Sister and Parent	Wants to know if eligibility requirements are changing. Sister works in a daycare in Kenai. Wages are \$7.25 to \$9 per hour. In January, all caregiver hours were cut to part time. Sister not eligible for daycare assistance since boyfriend lives with them on and off. To work a 4-hour shift, she earns \$36, but has to pay \$35 for daycare for her baby. Respondent does not take her own son to licensed day care because an infant spot in Anchorage costs about \$900 which is more than her rent. Hope Child Care Bureau can do something to address this issue - lower cost of day care or increase eligible income.
Deadra Hall Anchorage	State Foster Care Licensing Worker	The State pays \$750 per child per month for day care for foster children regardless of age – a recent increase. Believes this is more than public assistance pays but they are both State so what's the reasoning?
Christina Study Fairbanks	UAF Bookstore Textbook Coordinator	Asked if the new income eligibility guidelines are available.
Candace Winkler and Stephanie Berglund Anchorage	CEO and Program Manager, Child Care Connection the CCR&R Network Grantee	<p>Generally the plan looks good.</p> <p>Section 2.3 Added their literacy initiative with intentional training to early care and education partners on literacy. Every August they sponsor a Party in the Park where children each receive a book</p> <p>Section 5.1.5 Would like CCR&R Network included with improving salaries and other compensation.</p> <p>Section 5.1.6 Child Care Connection has received Healthy Child Care America funds in the past. Would like CCR&R Network added to grant around mental health.</p>

Cheryl Keepers Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star Borough Local CCAP Administrator and CCR&R Subcontractor for Referrals	Encouraged moving forward with revisions to the Family Contribution Schedule to reflect current incomes. Cost of child care in Fairbanks has risen and moderate income families can't afford licensed child care so providers have unfilled spaces. Facilities are closing. Lots of families need child care assistance but do not qualify.
Lupita Alarez Juneau	Juneau Montessori School Executive Director	Not clear how this plan addresses the need for accessible and affordable quality early childhood education. True cost of providing quality services not reflected by the market rate survey. There is a need to adjust child care assistance to reflect the current cost of living and cost of care, but without actual numbers is very hard to judge if the changes will be significant. All children deserve access to quality care but the funding does not cover a quality program. Providers have always been subsidizing the cost of care through low wages and lack of benefits to meet the needs of working parents. Wants to see increased funding for the Child Care Grant and SEED program to help providers to improve quality and compensate early childhood professionals.
Paige Vonder Haar	Fairbanks North Star Borough Early Childhood Commission Chair	Incomes and expenses have increased in the past 7 years since the last child care assistance income scale was established in 2002. Child care fees are beyond what the average income families can afford, yet they are not eligible for child care assistance. Parents are using unlicensed care or dropping from the workforce. Licensed child care program vacancies have increased, financially stressing those programs with a result of many closing. Updating the income guidelines will allow moderate income families to use licensed or approved child care and help prevent closures of licensed or approved programs. Encourage updating the child care assistance income guidelines.